

November 5, 2013 Election Information from the Registrars

July 18 Democratic and Republican Caucus

The major political parties will be deciding which candidates to nominate for the November ballot on Thursday, July 18th, 2013 and all registered party members are eligible to attend and vote for their party's candidates. The Democrats will hold their caucus at 7 pm at the Granby Senior Center and the Republicans will hold their caucus at 7 pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Unaffiliated voters have up until noon the day before to join a major political party to participate. Should a candidate for office wish to contest their party's nomination, petition papers are available from the Registrars office the next business day after the caucus, on July 19th. A party primary would be held on September 10th if 5% of the party's members sign the petition papers of the contesting candidate. Unaffiliated and minor party candidates, after filing with the Secretary of State, can also collect nominating petition signatures to secure a spot on the November ballot. All petition papers are due by 4:00 pm on August 7th. Primary petition papers must be received by the Registrar of Voters and Nominating Petition papers must be received by the Town Clerk.

Fourteen Day Registration Deadline for Mail In Registrations is Oct 22nd,

Mailed in Voter Registration Cards must be postmarked by October 22nd, 2013 to be accepted.

Seven Day In Person Registration Deadline is October 29th for Municipal

The Granby Registrar of Voters will hold a special last day – all day voter registration session from 9 am to 8 pm at their Town Hall offices. Same day voter registration has passed in Connecticut, so unregistered voters will for the first time be able to apply on Election Day at Town Hall. Voter Registration will be available for US Citizens who are 18 years of age or older and provide both proof of identity and proof of bona fide residence. The registration must be completed by 8:00 pm, in order to vote on Election Day. Voters need to be aware that voter registration is NON-transferable. If you move, you must register in your new town and make sure you receive a letter of confirmation within two weeks. Call or write the Registrars office, to receive confirmation on the status of your voter registration or to make changes.

One Polling Site

For the Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 5th, the polls will be open from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. All major town boards have seats up for election/re-election: Selectman, Finance, Education, Assessment Appeals, Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals and Town Moderator. All of Granby residents will vote at the same location, in the Granby Community Gym, located in Granby Memorial High School in the center of town. Traffic is anticipated to be light to moderate. It is recommended that drivers access the Community Gym using the High School's entrance off North Granby Road - Route 189, next to Public Works, and leave the polls from Salmon Brook Street - Route 10/202, next to the Middle School. All Granby schools will be closed on Election day, but the Registrars strongly recommend voting between 10:00 am and

4:00 pm if you have the option to do so, as the heaviest voting will be between 6:00 am and 10:00 am, and the second rush will be between 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm

Senior Van Service Available on Election Day

Homebound registered voters can arrange for transportation to the polls by calling the Social Services department at the Senior Center at # 860-844-5353. The service is planned to be offered from 9:00 am to Noon on Election Day and it is strongly recommended that voters call now to arrange for a ride before November 5th.

Voter ID

To check in quickly at the polls, please bring a photo ID. Should you not have a photo ID on election day, but have previously proven your ID, either at the time of your registration or when voting previously, you will need to spend a few minutes at the Moderator table, as there is a state required form to fill out. If you are a brand new voter, and your confirmation letter noted that you have not proven your identity, you **MUST** bring an ID to vote on Election Day, preferably a photo ID.

Vote By Phone

“Vote by Phone” technology will again be utilized for the upcoming Municipal Election on November 5th, 2013. This system is designed to allow people with disabilities to vote privately and independently on Election Day at the polling site using a specially set up system. To actually cast a vote, you need to be a registered voter and come to the polls on Election Day. We encourage all town residents to try out this system by calling IVS. At the time of this writing, the phone numbers for District 1 and 2 current ballots were unavailable for test voting. However, you can vote on a generic test ballot, 24/7, using the IVS demo line: 1) Call 1-888-661-6366 2) When asked for poll worker ID, enter 1234. When asked for ballot access ID enter 101 (township Addison). 4) Follow the voting instructions to make ballot selections. It will take a little patience to listen to all of the information, but be aware you can vote quickly once you are familiar with this phone system, which allows you to skip past instructions or hearing the entire ballot.

Curbside Voting

Physically disabled or handicapped voters can choose to vote using an absentee ballot through the Town Clerk (see below) before Election day. For voters who have a temporary medical issue on Election day, such as a severe arthritis flare up, they can participate in a new program called curbside voting. This involves making a request at the polling site for help from two assistant registrars, a Democrat and a Republican, while the curbside voter waits in a designated parking space. The assistant registrars will then check in the voter and get issued a ballot in a privacy folder that they will jointly carry to the car of the voter to fill out. After filling out the ballot, the two Assistant Registrars will then jointly carry the completed ballot, in a privacy folder, to the

optical scanner voting machine to be counted. This service is not available to people who are not temporarily physically handicapped.

Absentee Ballots:

Absentee Ballots are handled through the Town Clerk's office, and represent a complete ballot, identical to the ballots used by voters on Election Day. Connecticut has specific guidelines for the use of Absentee ballots. Essentially the voter must testify on their Absentee ballot application that they have a reason for not voting at the polls on election day. The form is available at Town Hall or on the website of the Secretary of State at www.sots.ct.gov. If you can come to the Town Hall you can complete the process in person. Any completed ballots received by the Town Clerk after November 5th will not be counted.

Redistricting in 2011 – New Lines Drawn

The district lines that separate the 7th and 8th district drastically changed in 2011. The new boundary is the West Branch of Salmon Brook and Barndoor Hills Road. Voters who live north and east of these borders are now in District One, and vote in the 7th State Senate race. Voters who live south and west are in District Two and vote in the 8th State Senate race. This new division means that all of North Granby, and in fact 93% of the town is now voting in District 1. Only the southwest corner of town, or 7 % are voting in District 2. The exact street lists are posted on the town's website, or contact the Registrars.

Pollworkers Needed

Pollworker training will be done in October, and pollworkers are needed. Please send an e-mail to the registrars at lwolfe.granby.ct@gmail.com or mwolf.granby.ct@gmail.com if you are interested in participating or would like more information. Volunteer pollworkers must be at least 15 years old and can choose to volunteer for a few hours, as desired to fit their schedules. Town paid official pollworkers must be registered voters in town and need to work both at the polling place set up at 5 pm on Monday night, November 4th and all day on Tuesday, November 5th from 5:00 am to 9:00 pm.

Calendar Review:

Applications for absentee ballots are available now from the Town Clerk or online from the SOS: www.sots.ct.gov

Tuesday, October 22nd is the Postmark deadline for mailed voter registration applications

Tuesday, October 29th All Day Voter Registration Session - Special Office Hours 9 am to 8 pm at Registrar's office at Town Hall

Monday, November 4th Last Day to Register in person for brand new residents, military service and just turned 18 years old. Special Office Hours 9 am to Noon at Town Hall.

Tuesday, November 5th Municipal Election – Polls open 6:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Granby Community Gym, Granby Memorial High School

Tuesday, November 5th Same Day – Election Day Registration and voting at the Registrar's office at Town Hall.

Absentee Ballot Applications are being collected now by the Town Clerk for those who know they can't get to the polls on November 5th. The form is available at Town Hall or on the web at www.sots.ct.gov

Feel free to stop by to register to vote, figure out which is your voting district or make corrections in person at the Registrars' Office in the Town Hall every Wednesday, regular office hours are 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Please note voter registration forms are also available at town halls, libraries, DMV offices and online at the Secretary of State's website: www.sots.ct.gov

Questions? Please feel free to contact the registrars, Laura Wolfe and Maureen Wolf, their office phone number/voice mail is # 860-844-5322 and e-mail addresses are: lwolfe.granby.ct@gmail.com and mwolf.granby.ct@gmail.com